

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated March 26, 2004, claims 1-3 were stated to be allowable. Claims 4-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by each of Magara et al, Sakaguchi et al and Miyakawa et al.

In response, claim 4 has been amended to bring the subject matter of claim 5 therein, and a new independent claim 9 has been presented which is a combination of original claims 4 and 7.

Independent claim 4 is submitted to be patentable over the Magara et al, Sakaguchi et al and Miyakawa et al references for the following reasons.

The power supply in amended claim 4 includes a switch that is connected to the direct current source as well as to the alternating current source, and operates to interrupt the direct current flow and to produce a flow between the alternating current source and the electromagnet.

The Magara et al references discloses a power supply for an electromagnet having an alternating current source and a direct current source separate therefrom. The direct current source and the alternating current source are both controlled by a control unit, designated with reference numeral 25 in Figure 5. The control unit is not a switch in the sense of being connected between one of the direct current source and the alternating current source and, when opened, actually interrupting a current path associated with one of those current sources, but instead is operable to energize either the direct current source or the alternating current source during specified time spans. The direct power supply is used for magnetization and the alternating power supply is used for demagnetization. As can be seen from Figure 7 of the Magara et al reference, the control unit operates so that a certain time span

elapses after operation of the direct power supply (magnetization) before demagnetization (activation of the alternating current supply).

Thus, the control unit disclosed in Magara et al is not a switch in the sense of being connected between one of the current sources and the electromagnet, and does not operate to interrupt current in a flowpath, as set forth in claim 4.

The Sakaguchi et al reference discloses a current source that provides both direct current and alternating current. The variable AC/DC current source, however, is only indicated by block 28 in Figure 10, and the internal details of that unit are not given. It must be assumed that the internal components are similar to those disclosed in the Magara reference. In any event, there is no disclosure whatsoever of a separate direct current source and a separate alternating current source and a switch that is operable to interrupt current from one of those sources to the electromagnet, as set forth in claim 4.

The Miyakawa et al reference discloses a camera having a direct current source electrically connected with an electromagnet, with a connection also existing to a further direct current source with a weak alternating current component. Thus, in contrast to the power supply claimed in claim 4, two direct current sources are provided, but one of these has a weak alternating current component superimposed on the direct component. Both current sources are simultaneously connected to the electromagnet, as described in the Abstract of the Miyakawa et al reference. Therefore, no switch, and no switch function, is disclosed or suggested in the Miyakawa et al reference.

Therefore, none of the Migara et al, Sakaguchi et al or Miyakawa et al references discloses all of the elements of claim 4 as arranged and operating in that

claim. Therefore, none of those references anticipates claim 4, nor any of the claims depending from claim 4.

New claim 9 is not anticipated by any of the above references for the following reasons.

Claim 9 claims a power supply having a capacitive element connected in parallel with the direct current source in an electrical current flow path from the direct current source to the electromagnet. In the Magara et al reference, wherein two separately controllable power supplies are provided respectively for direct current and alternating current, there is no teaching or suggestion or disclosure of such a capacitor.

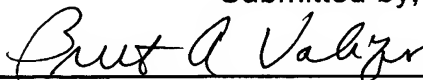
As noted above, the Sakaguchi et al reference does not disclose any internal details of the box 28 shown in Figure 10, and therefore there is no disclosure in the Sakaguchi et al reference of such a capacitor.

In the Miyakawa et al reference, a capacitor 40 is shown in Fig. 1, but this cannot be simultaneously connected with the battery 17 and the electromagnetic, but serves only to provide additional energy to support the direct current source. The Miyakawa et al reference, therefore, does not disclose or suggest a capacitive element as set forth in claim 9.

Therefore, none of Magara et al, Sakaguchi et al or Miyakawa et al disclose all of the elements of claim 9 as arranged and operating in that claim, and therefore none of those references anticipates claim 9, nor claim 10 depending therefrom.

All claims of the application are therefore submitted to be in condition for allowance, and early consideration of the application is respectfully requested.

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